

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification as follows:

A piston ring having a first coating of nodular thin dense chromium is disclosed. The first coating is preferably provided on upper and lower radially extending surfaces of the piston ring. Further, the first coating is provided on a radially inner vertical surface of the piston ring. A radially outer vertical surface of the piston ring preferably includes a second coating of a thermal spray. ~~The first coating of nodular thin dense chromium is applied by an Armoloy® process.~~ The first coating provides improved wear resistance and a smooth surface for piston rings received in piston grooves. ~~This abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract that will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims.~~